

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A fixture for mounting a component to a rack for supporting a plurality of components, comprising:

a first plate having a surface for receiving the component; and

a second plate having a surface for attachment to the rack and cooperating with the first plate to form a combination of mounting plates;

wherein the first plate is pivotally connected to the second plate so that, in a first position, the first plate is adjacent to and in substantial alignment with the second plate and, in a second position, the first plate is rotated to an orientation which longitudinally projects from the second plate.

2. The fixture of claim 1 wherein the second position of the first plate forms an angle with the second plate.

3. The fixture of claim 1 wherein the first plate is pivotally connected to the second plate by a hinge which operatively connects the mounting plates.

4. The fixture of claim 3 wherein the hinge is positioned along lateral edges of the mounting plates.

5. The fixture of claim 3 wherein the first plate and the second plate have a substantially rectangular shape.

6. The fixture of claim 5 wherein the first plate includes a notch formed in an edge of the first plate which

opposes the hinge.

7. The fixture of claim 1 wherein the second plate further includes a flange extending from a longitudinal edge of the surface of the second plate.

8. The fixture of claim 7 which further includes a locking mechanism coupled with the flange of the second plate.

9. The fixture of claim 8 wherein the locking mechanism includes a tip extending through an aperture formed in the flange of the second plate, for selectively engaging a component connected to the first plate.

10. A fixture for mounting a component to a rack for supporting a plurality of components, comprising:

a first plate having a surface for receiving the component; and

a second plate having a surface for attachment to the rack and cooperating with the first plate to form a combination of mounting plates;

wherein the first plate is pivotally connected to the second plate by a hinge which operatively connects the mounting plates so that, in a first position, the first plate is adjacent to and in substantial alignment with the second plate and, in a second position, the first plate is rotated to an orientation which longitudinally projects from the second plate.

11. The fixture of claim 10 wherein the hinge is positioned along lateral edges of the mounting plates.

12. The fixture of claim 10 wherein the second position of the first plate forms an angle with the second

plate,

13. The fixture of claim 10 wherein the first plate and the second plate have a substantially rectangular shape.

14. The fixture of claim 13 wherein the first plate includes a notch formed in an edge of the first plate which opposes the hinge.

15. The fixture of claim 10 wherein the second plate further includes a flange extending from a longitudinal edge of the surface of the second plate.

16. The fixture of claim 15 which further includes a locking mechanism coupled with the flange of the second plate.

17. The fixture of claim 16 wherein the locking mechanism includes a tip extending through an aperture formed in the flange of the second plate, for selectively engaging a component connected to the first plate.

18. A fixture for mounting a component to a rack for supporting a plurality of components, wherein the rack is comprised of a plurality of supports which combine to define a region for receiving the plurality of components which includes first portions for freely accessing the components, and second portions defining an area of limited access which is at least partially blocked by the supports of the rack, and wherein the fixture comprises:

a first plate having a surface for receiving the component; and

a second plate having a surface attached to the rack and cooperating with the first plate to form a

combination of mounting plates;

wherein the first plate is pivotally connected to the second plate by a hinge which operatively connects the mounting plates so that, in a first position, the first plate is located within the second portions of the region defined by the plurality of supports, adjacent to and in substantial alignment with the second plate and, in a second position, the first plate is rotated to an orientation which longitudinally projects from the second plate and which is located within the first portions of the region defined by the plurality of supports.

19. The fixture of claim 18 wherein the hinge is positioned along lateral edges of the mounting plates.

20. The fixture of claim 18 wherein the second position of the first plate forms an angle with the second plate.

21. The fixture of claim 18 wherein the first plate and the second plate have a substantially rectangular shape.

22. The fixture of claim 21 wherein the first plate includes a notch formed in an edge of the first plate which opposes the hinge.

23. The fixture of claim 18 wherein the second plate further includes a flange extending from a longitudinal edge of the surface of the second plate.

24. The fixture of claim 23 which further includes a locking mechanism coupled with the flange of the second plate.

25. The fixture of claim 24 wherein the locking mechanism includes a tip extending through an aperture formed in the flange of the second plate, for selectively engaging a component connected to the first plate.

26. The fixture of claim 25 which further includes a bracket for connection to the component, wherein the bracket has an aperture for receiving the tip extending through the aperture formed in the flange of the second plate.

27. The fixture of claim 18 wherein the second plate further includes at least one aperture for receiving hardware for attaching the second plate to the rack so that the second plate is located within the second portions of the region defined by the plurality of supports.

28. The fixture of claim 18 wherein the component is supported by the first plate and the second plate within the second portions of the region defined by the plurality of supports when the first plate is in the first position.

29. The fixture of claim 18 wherein the first plate is connectable to a side of the component.